

FIG. 1

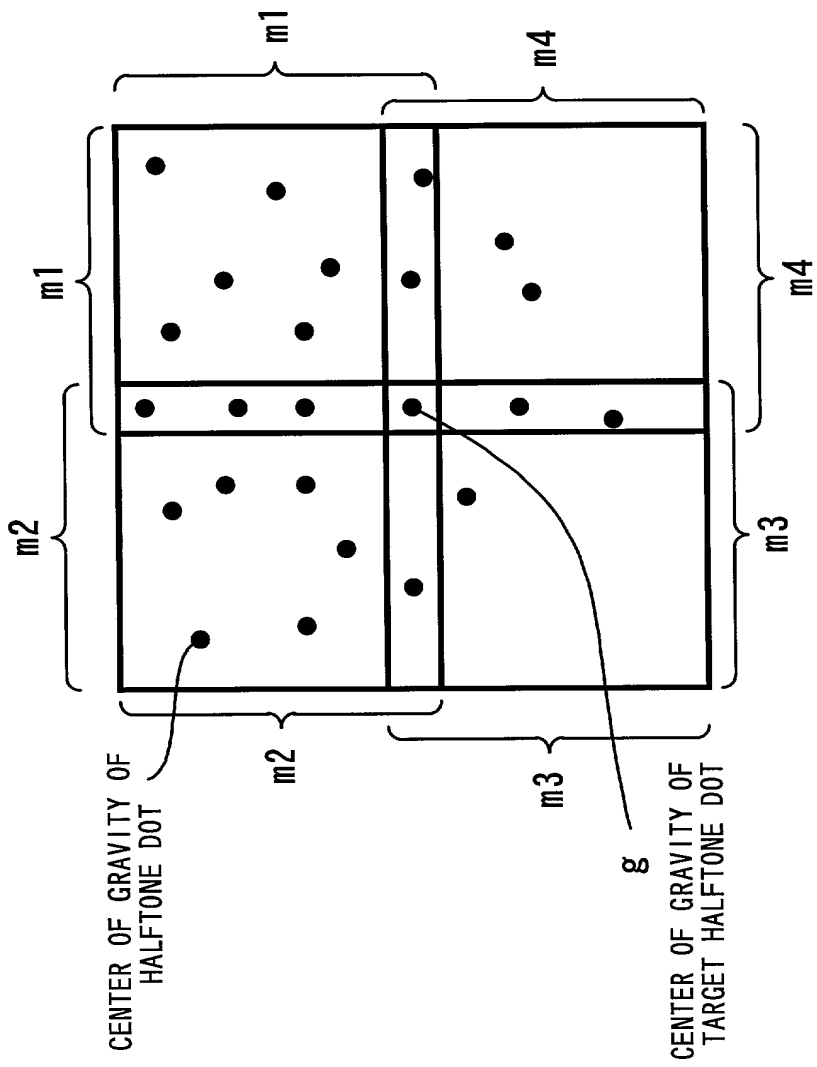


FIG. 2

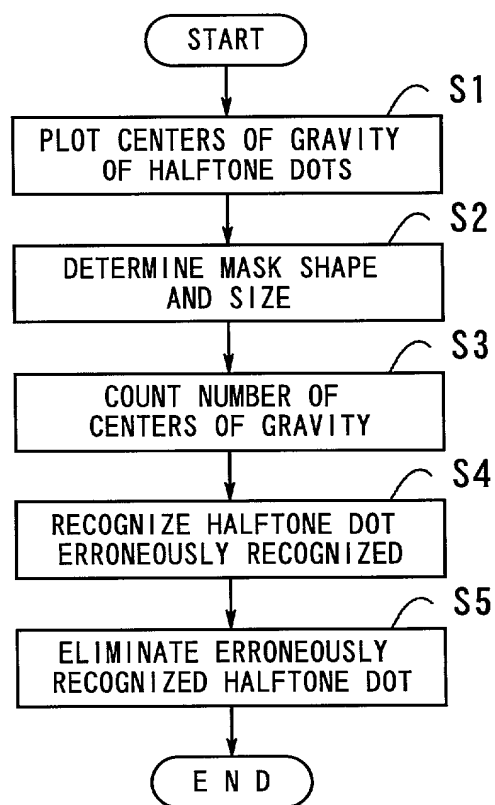
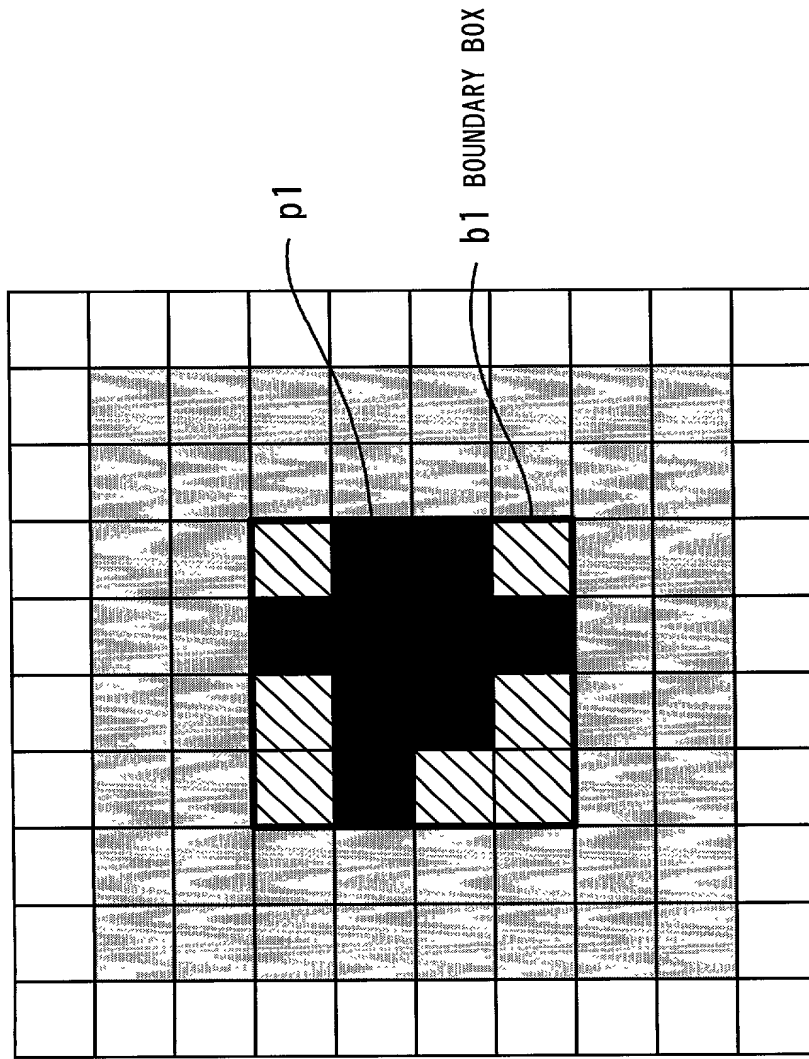


FIG. 3



FIG. 4






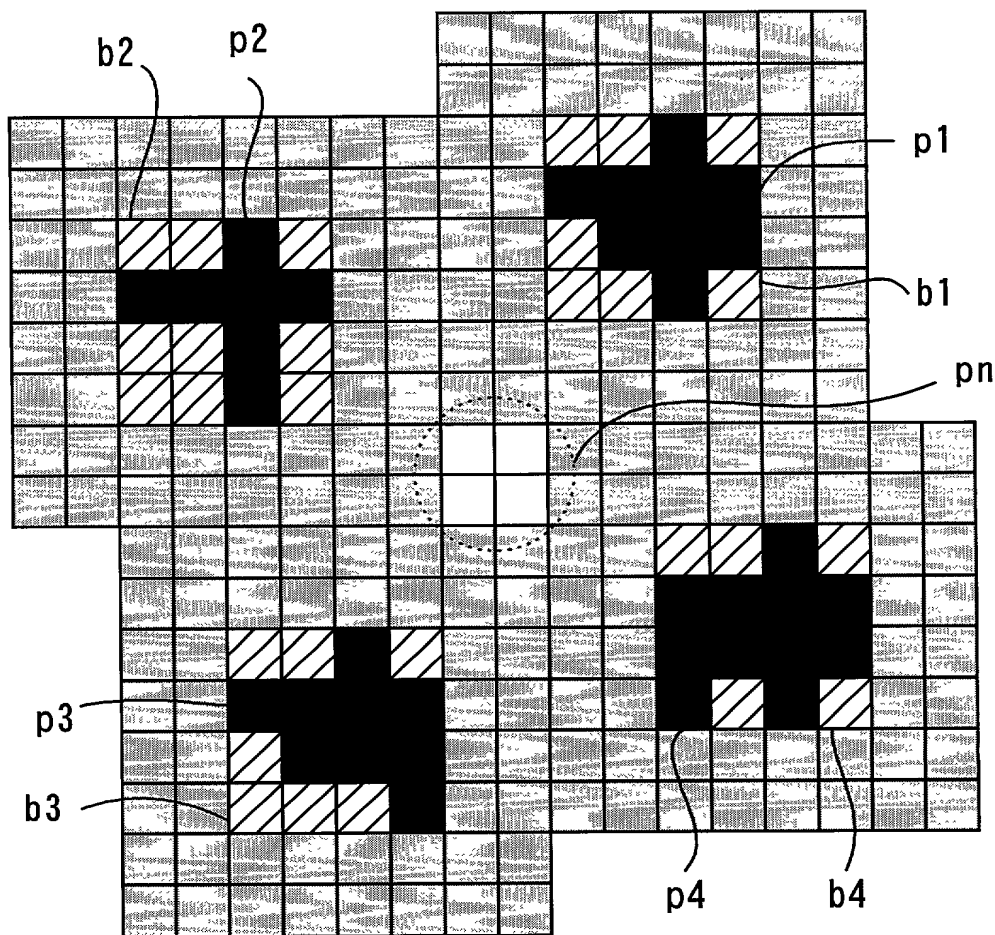
-  : PIXEL p1 THAT IS ORIGINALLY HALFTONE DOT
-  : PIXEL THAT IS IN BOUNDARY BOX AND IS PAINTED OUT
-  : PIXEL PAINTED OUT BY EXPANSION PROCESS

FIG. 5






-  : PIXEL p1 THAT IS ORIGINALLY HALFTONE DOT
-  : PIXEL PAINTED OUT BY EXPANSION PROCESS
-  : PIXEL THAT IS IN BOUNDARY BOX AND IS PAINTED OUT

FIG. 6

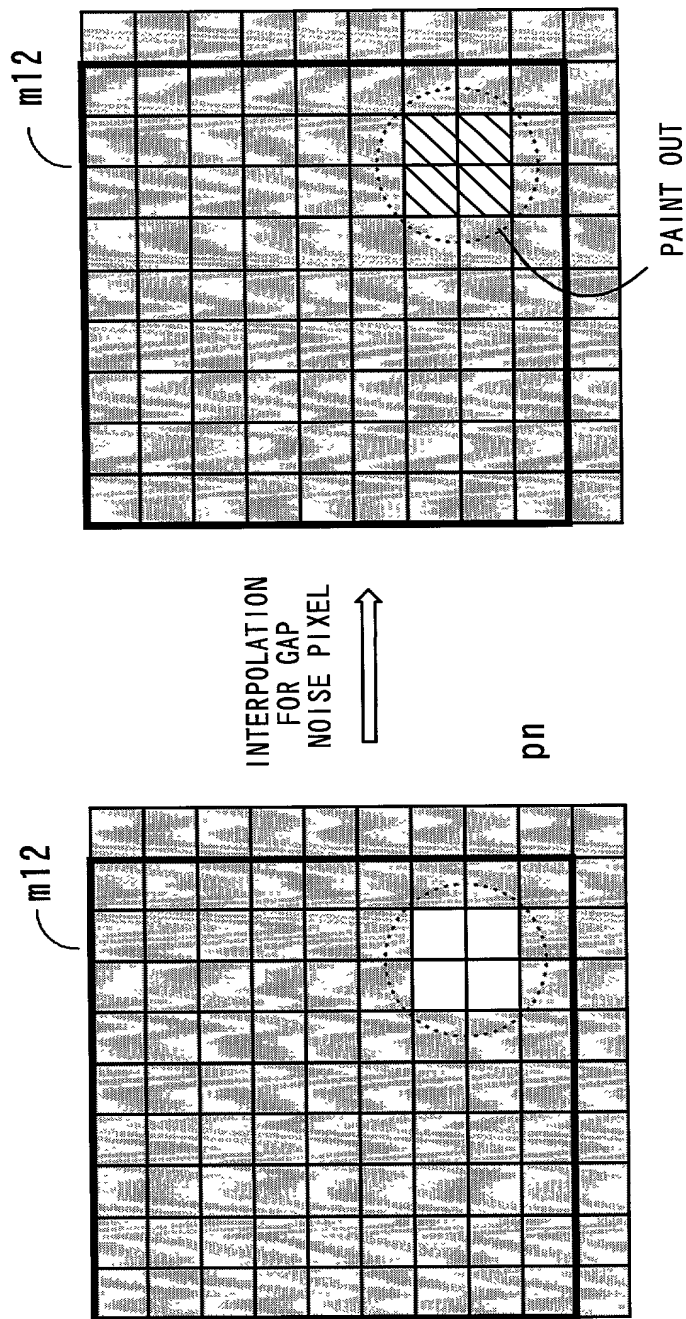


FIG. 7

FIG. 8 is a schematic diagram of a halftone image processing system. The system includes a halftone image part 100a-1, a line drawing/character image part 100b-1, and a line drawing/character image part 100b-2. The halftone image part 100a-1 is a rectangular area filled with a dense pattern of dots. The line drawing/character image part 100b-1 is a rectangular area containing a line drawing of a character. The line drawing/character image part 100b-2 is a rectangular area containing a line drawing of a character. The system is labeled 100 ORIGINAL IMAGE.

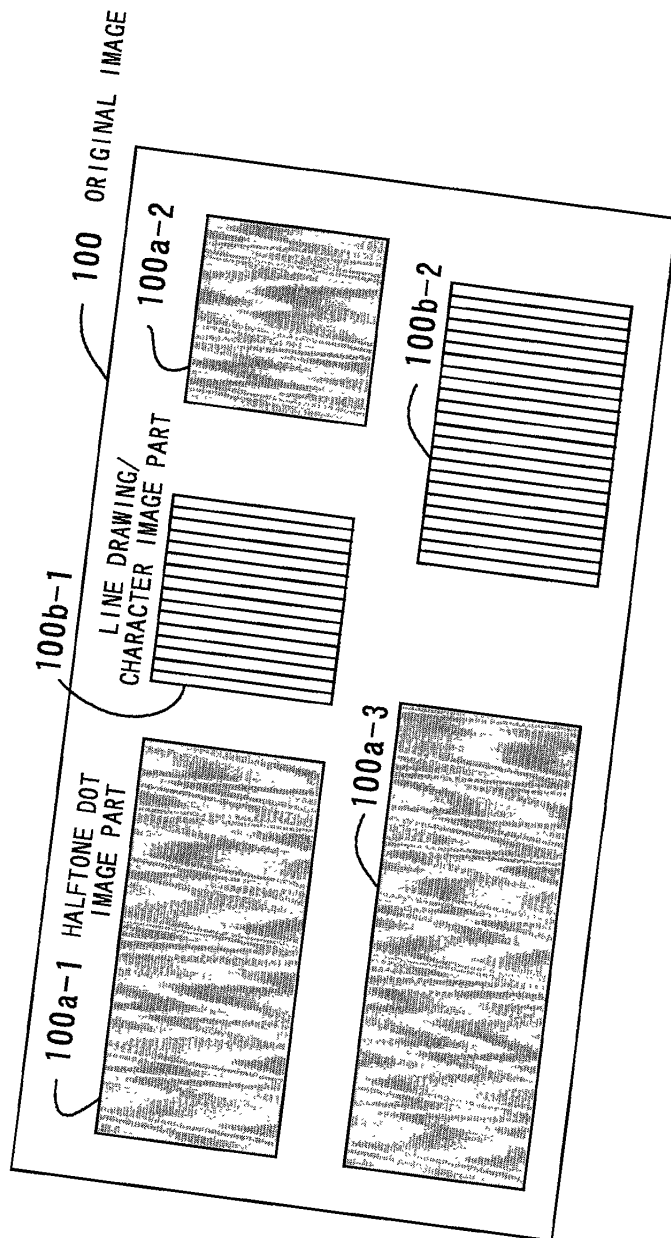


FIG. 8

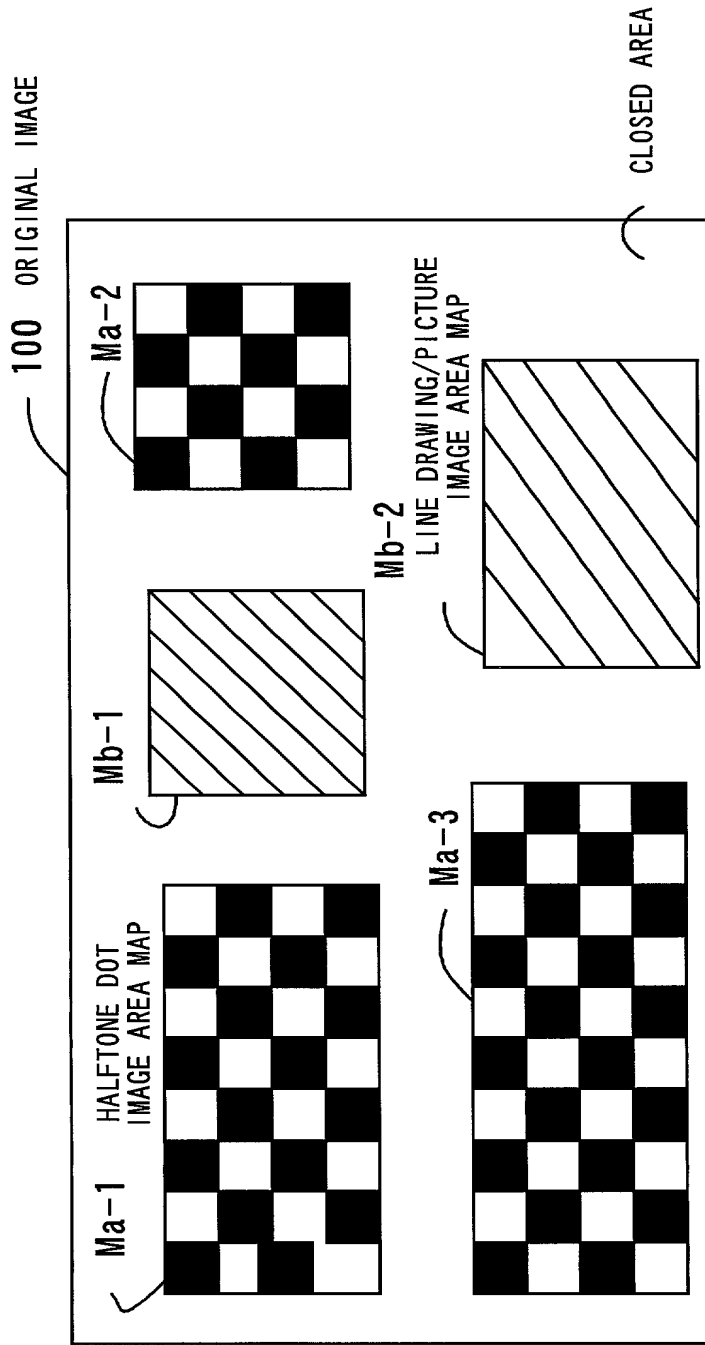


FIG. 9

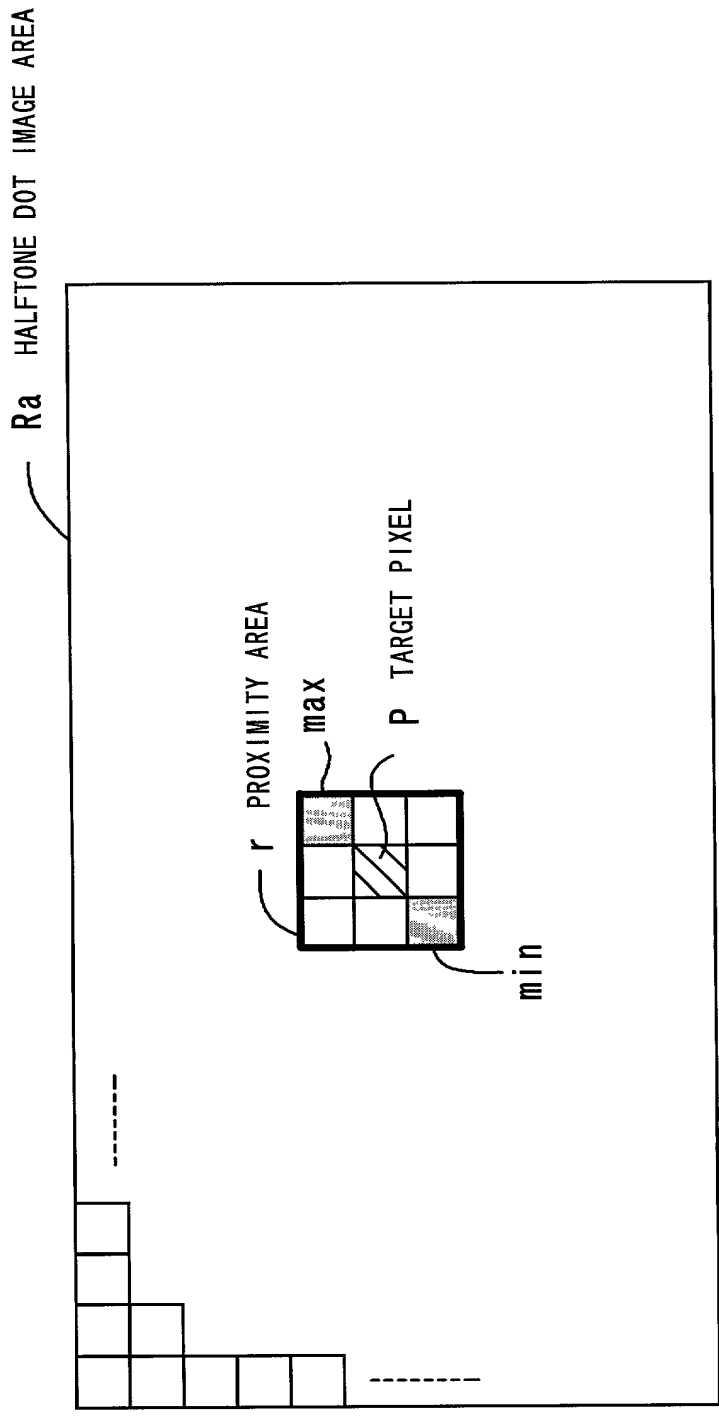


FIG. 10

r1 PROXIMITY AREA

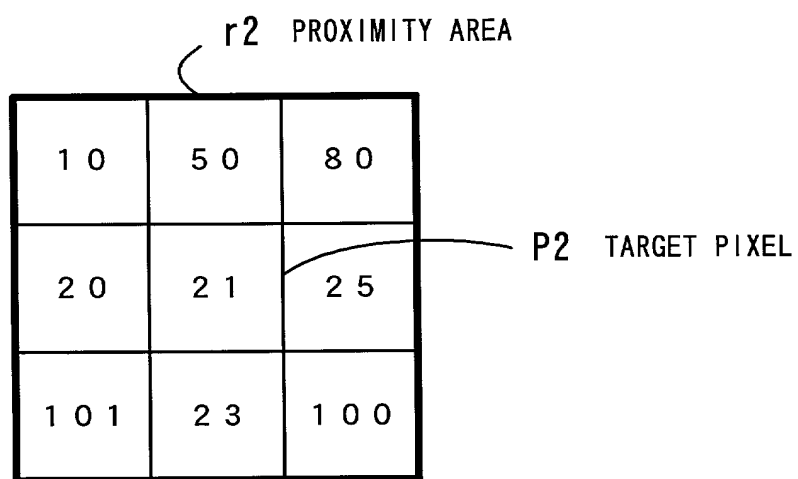
1 0 0	5 0	8 0
2 0 0	2 0 1	2 0 5
2 1 0	2 3 0	1 0 0

P1 TARGET PIXEL

CHANGED PIXEL VALUE $P_a = 230$ (MAXIMUM PIXEL VALUE AVAILABLE IN PROXIMITY AREA) * α

$$0.0 < \alpha \leq 1.0$$

FIG. 11



CHANGED PIXEL VALUE $P_b = 230 (\text{MINIMUM PIXEL VALUE AVAILABLE IN PROXIMITY AREA}) * \beta$

$$1. \quad 0 \leq \beta$$

FIG. 12

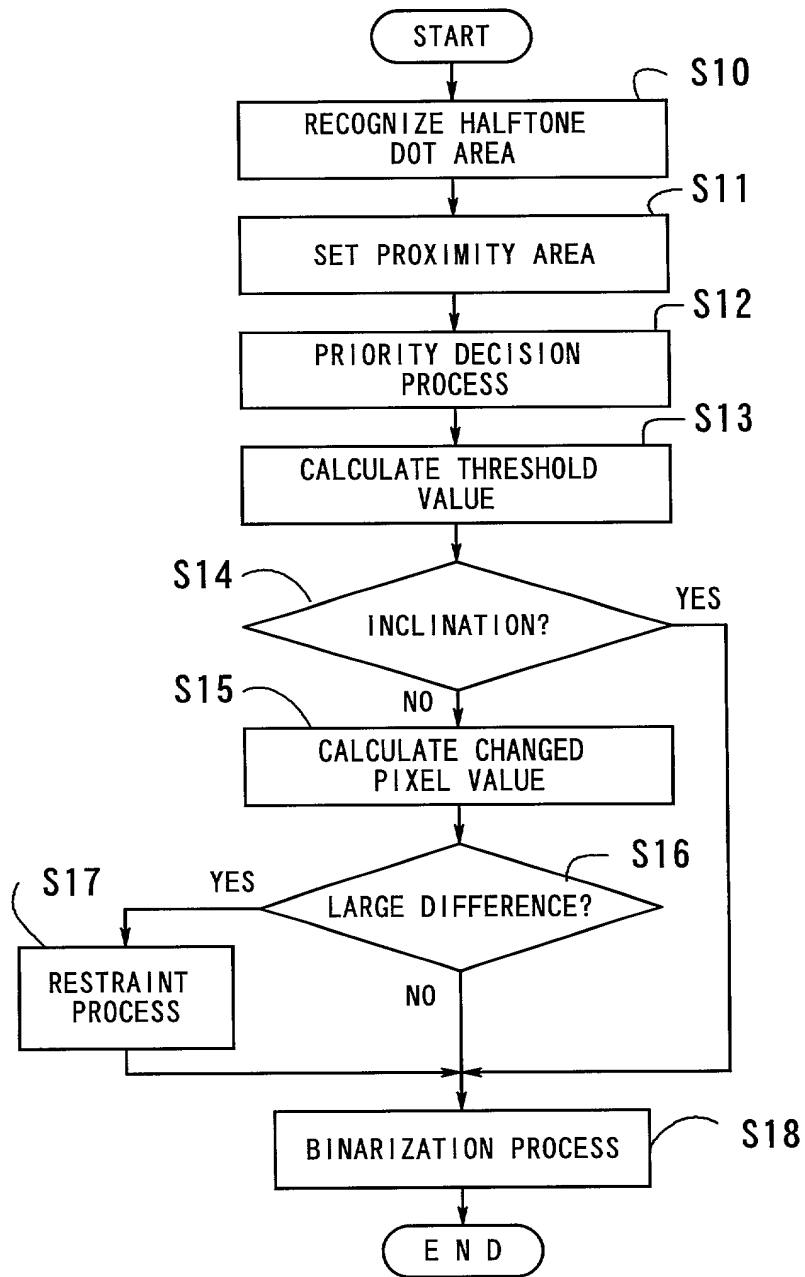


FIG. 13

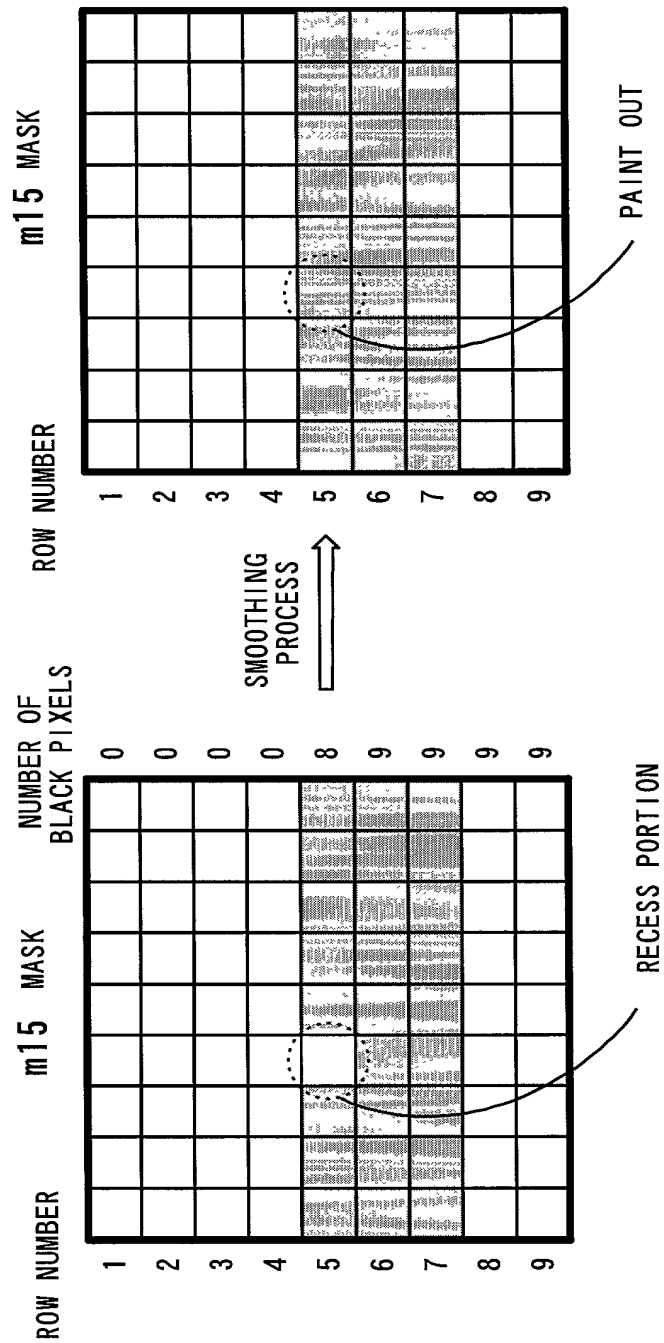


FIG. 14

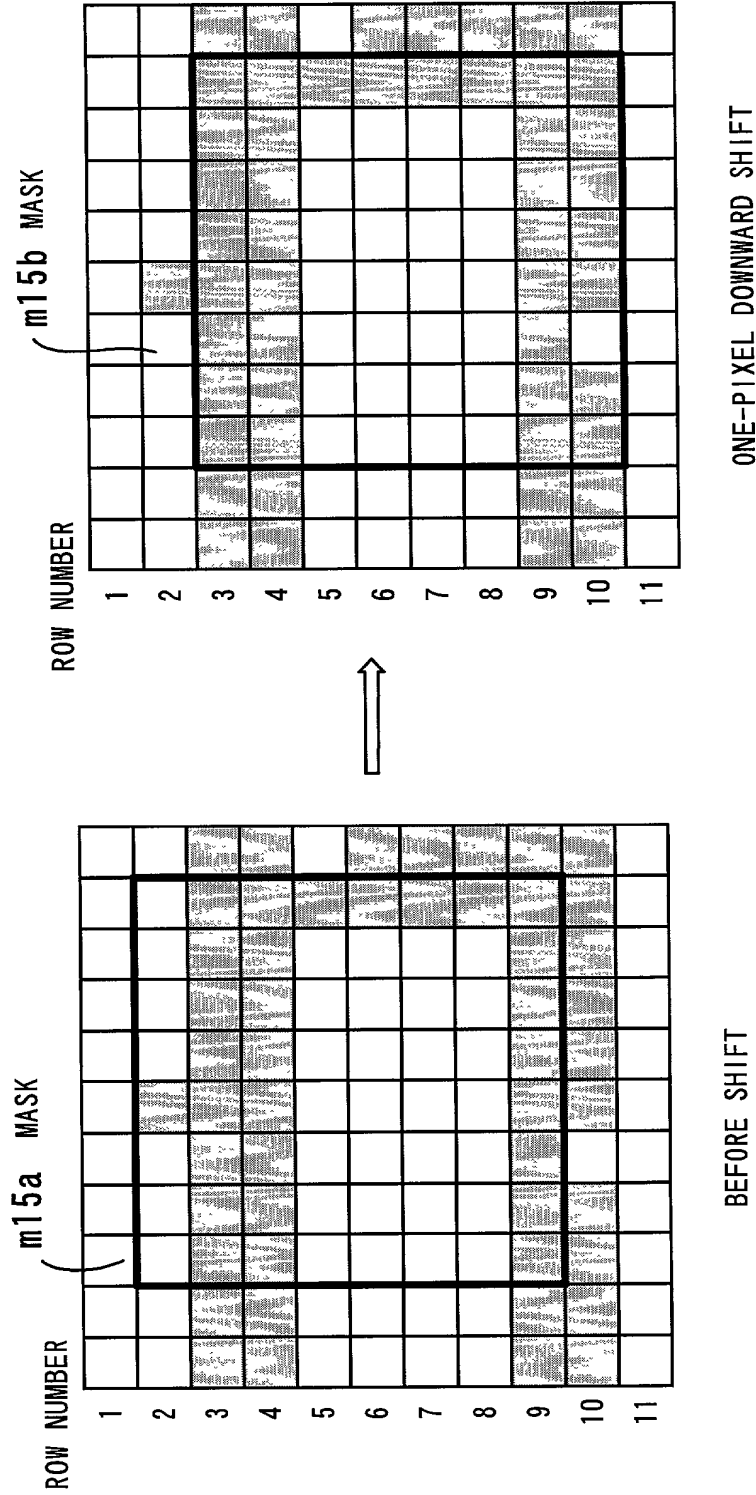


FIG. 15

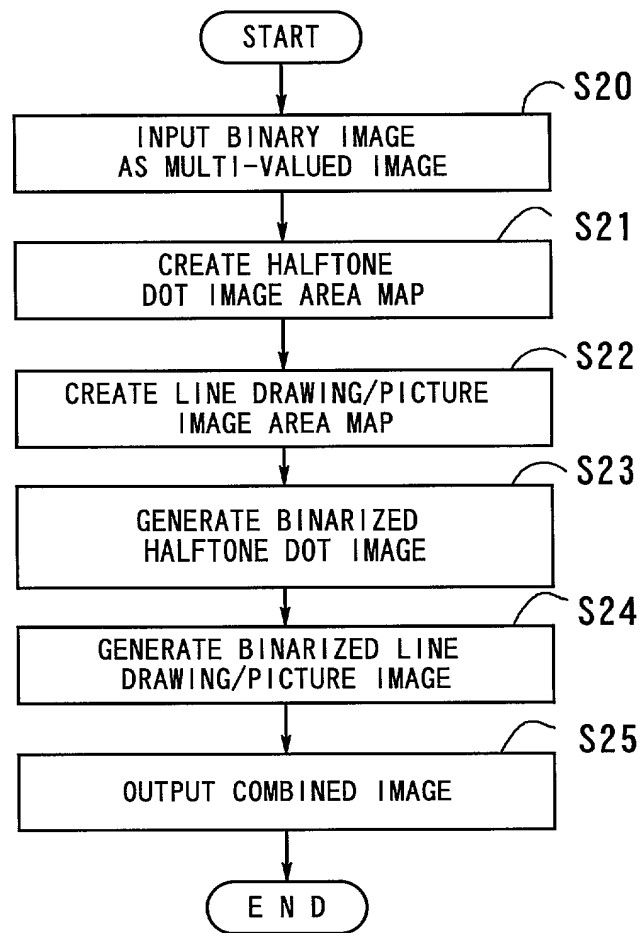


FIG. 16